

Summer Reading

Strategies of Effective Readers

Here are some helpful strategies that effective readers use **BEFORE** reading, **DURING** reading, and **AFTER** reading. *These strategies are not required.*

Before Reading

- Set aside time and find a quiet place to enjoy your book.
- Set short-term reading goals: an hour a week is a good start.
- Preview what you are going to read by looking at the dust jacket, chapter titles, headings, illustrations, captions, and other text features.
- Reflect on what you already know about the content of the book.
- Be willing to be a bit confused as you begin reading; even the very best readers struggle to make sense of a book as they begin reading.

During Reading

- Make predictions as you read and then see if they come true.
- Stop reading at the end of each chapter and try to summarize what you have read.
- Make connections between what you already know and what you are reading.
- Try to visualize what you are reading as if the book were a movie in your head.
- Pose questions about your reading and talk with others about your book.
- Keep a reader's journal and reflect on your reading in writing: what interests you, what confuses you, etc.
- Imagine the setting, characters, events, etc., allowing images to unfurl in your mind.

After Reading

- Create your own graphic organizer to show the relationships among important ideas, characters, and/or events.
- Check your predictions to see if they came true.
- Reflect on what you liked and/or disliked about the book.
- Consider whether or not you would recommend this book to someone else.
- Make personal connections to the characters and themes of the book.